

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES, SOUTH-SOUTH SOLUTIONS

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1) African Fashion's Growing Global Marketplace Profile

Tales of African global fashion successes have multiplied in the last few years. African fashion is seeing its profile rise as more and more shows and festivals boost awareness of the continent's designs, designers and models. In turn, African fashion and design is being taken more seriously as an income and job generator and as a sector able to weather the ups and downs of the global economy: people always need to wear clothes.

If the global fashion industry were a country, it would rank 7th in global GDP (gross domestic product) (Fashion Performance Network).

In 2011, the apparel retail industry was worth an estimated US \$1.1 trillion, and that could grow to US \$1.3 trillion by 2016. And the sector is expanding in the global South. It is forecast that India and China combined will be as big a fashion market as the United States by 2015.

One visible aspect of this is the plethora of African fashion weeks that have sprung up.

Launched in 2011, African Fashion Week in London (africafashionweeklondon.com), or AFWL, is a reflection of how far things have come and how much higher the profile of African fashion now is.

The mission behind AFWL is "to promote emerging and established African designers and African-inspired designers from across the globe." The number of attendees grew from 4,700 in the first year to 20,000 in 2012.

In 2012 it partnered with Côte d'Ivoire Fashion Week (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cote-d'Ivoire-Fashion-Week/364950310210789>), which will hold its third annual event in December 2013. This partnership has meant fashion designers from Côte d'Ivoire can benefit from the higher international profile of appearing at African Fashion Week in London. The theme in 2012 was "Ivorian Textile Products on the American Market."

"London is one of the most important fashion capitals around the world," said Côte d'Ivoire Fashion Week's founder and CEO, Coulibaly Severin on the AFWL website. "It is a great honour for us and the African continent to have a professional international platform to promote African Fashion industry actors, African heritage, African values, African textiles through Africa Fashion Week London."

The idea is to use the fashion week as a bridge to access the European market.

With the right support, African fashion businesses have huge potential for growth.

A distinctive "Afropolitan" aesthetic (<http://afropolitanaesthetic.tumblr.com/>) has grown as a phenomenon since 2005, influencing global urban design trends. It can be characterized as urban, sophisticated, tailored and boldly African in its use of colours and patterns. British designer Paul Smith (<http://www.paulsmith.co.uk/uk-en/shop/>) has been one of many designers to be inspired by the afropolitan look.

While African fashion trends have always influenced the global fashion business, the challenge has been to create viable global African fashion brands that can compete in the global marketplace and in turn create sustainable jobs in Africa.

Pioneers are showing that it can be done.

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Featured at Africa Fashion Week in London in 2011, the Nigerian fashion brand Mmabon (mmabon.com) is now looking to pioneer new ways to buy and sell clothing in Africa. The company, which sells affordable casual and custom apparel, is launching a mobile phone app for all devices and is building its own Internet e-commerce website as well. Mmabon had been engaging with customers through Facebook and the BlackBerry smartphone, but realized it could offer a much better experience for customers through an app and an e-commerce website. This shows the future for fashion in Africa is going mobile and going online.

Founded by Elizabeth Idem-Ido, Mmabon is capitalizing on the fact Internet access is improving in Nigeria and is turning to online advertising to drum up customers. The fashion brand is trying to reach 16 to 34 year olds, of which 8 million are believed to be currently on Facebook in Nigeria, according to Idem-Ido.

There is a cultural change underway in the country: people are increasingly feeling comfortable doing commerce online and on mobile phones.

"Nigerian youths are now more willing to buy products over the Internet, unlike five years ago, with the likes of konga.com and jumia.com revolutionizing the online retail scene in Nigeria," Idem-Ido, who is also a trained lawyer, told VC4Africa (<https://vc4africa.biz/>).

Konga (Konga.com) is Nigeria's largest online mall. Opened in 2012, it offers a wide range of products for order across Nigeria. Jumia.com calls itself the "the biggest online shopping mall in Africa", operating in Morocco, Egypt, Ivory Coast, Nigeria and Kenya. Another player is Ecwid (ecwid.com), which bills itself as an e-commerce solution for small businesses that "is a revolutionary shopping cart that seamlessly integrates with your existing website. It can also be added to your page on social media networks, such as Facebook or mySpace".

Idem-Ido's experience with Mmabon over the past two years shows how online marketing can be an effective - and cost-effective - way to broaden a company's customer base.

"As a business, we have not physically met with 80 per cent of our current customers," she said. "Orders have been achieved from referrals, BlackBerry Messenger contacts and our official Facebook page. Online marketing improves our visibility without owning a prime-location store and reminds, assures our already existing customers on why we are their preferred brand."

Her fashion business began humbly as a part-time t-shirt printing hobby for her friends. Then people started ordering custom-designed t-shirts, and so she began a journey exploring fabrics in local and foreign markets.

Mmabon is now the official merchandiser for the Calabar Festival 2013-2015 (calabarfestival.com), the biggest street carnival in West Africa. Taking place in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria, it attracts a million people.

Mmabon is receiving help from Venture Capital for Africa, or VC4Africa (<https://vc4africa.biz/>), a community of entrepreneurs and investors helping to build companies in Africa, to raise further investment to grow the brand and the business.

Another success benefiting from international exposure is Malian designer Boubacar Doumbia (<http://www.ndomo.net/english/index.html>), who is currently making fabrics for design-savvy British furniture and home furnishings store Habitat. The prints with African themes have proven a hit with Habitat customers.

Working from a new studio in Burkina Faso's capital, Ouagadougou, Doumbia (<https://www.ashoka.org/fellow/boubacar-doumbia>) is a leading advocate of bogolan (<http://www.malimali.org/what-is-bogolan/>), a Malian traditional textile dyeing process using mud.

He uses locally grown cotton, which is first dyed using plant-based dyes. A chemical reaction occurs when the iron in the mud is applied to the fabric and turns the existing plant dye black after three applications, or grey after two applications. The mud is washed off and the fabrics are placed in the sun to dry. It is a sustainable and chemical-free approach to dyeing fabrics and also creates vibrant patterns that have caught the attention of people in Europe and elsewhere.

Other outlets who have become enamored with African patterns and themes in Britain include Darkroom Boutique, House of Fraser and the V&A Museum, The Guardian newspaper reported.

As an Ashoka fellow (ashoka.org) - Ashoka is the largest network of social entrepreneurs worldwide - Boubacar is using the craft as a way to boost skills and opportunities for youth in Mali. He has "overhauled the traditional model of youth apprenticeship in Mali by putting young people in a central, entrepreneurial role from the outset. Rather than simply train students in the methods of textile production, he teaches professional, people and life skills, and encourages his apprentices to become self-sufficient, creative, and innovative", according to the Ashoka website.

Elsewhere, African fashion style pioneer Gilles Belinga (<https://www.facebook.com/GillesBelinga>) has become a fashion phenomenon in China. The former communications engineering student had a deeply personal conversion to fashion and style upon arriving in Beijing; the buzzing and vibrant Chinese capital captured his heart.

"I discovered my talent and passion for fashion in China," he told China Daily.

"I've also been given many opportunities here, so I want to pursue my fashion dream in China."

The Cameroon native has a distinctly afropolitan take on fashion - elegant, tailored suits, strong colours, and a gentleman's manner - and this fashionable posture landed him modeling work in fashion shows.

He arrived in China in 2008 after his parents divorced and he went from being in a wealthy family back home to having to do any job he could get to survive. He started out in Tianjin, China - an industrial city with a large high-technology sector - and then moved to Beijing to study.

It was there that he fell in love with the city's fashion scene and hasn't looked back.

"I never attended fashion school in Africa, but in Beijing, in this fashionable environment I realized that I like drawing clothes, matching colors and mixing fabrics," he said.

"There are so many fabrics here, which has given me the chance to try out different things. Sometimes you might have a talent in you, but you might not discover that talent if you're not in a place where it can come out."

He now designs clothes and has them made by local tailors.

"When I design clothes for clients, I look at the whole person and what kind of message they want to deliver to people," he said. "Then I check their skin color and think about style and fabric."

He defies the elitist take on fashion that can be promulgated by fashion magazines and thinks good fashion is for everyone.

"I believe the way you dress sends a message to people about how you want them to think about you."

He finds Beijing is full of opportunities and he is regularly stopped in the city's trendy Sanlitun (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanlitun>) neighbourhood and asked to be in fashion shows.

"In China, you don't know who you are going to meet. You could be anywhere and meet someone who can change your life."

And he plans to perfect his skills and designs in China and then take them back to Cameroon one day.

And maybe, in time, Belinga will be the next big fashion thing.

LINKS:

- 1) African Fashion Week London: AFWL celebrates London's unique and diverse cultural heritage, topped with the flamboyant mixing of Western and African culture through fashion at the same time promoting Africa's rich ethnic culture and interpreting it into contemporary designs. **Website:** africafashionweeklondon.com
- 2) Gentlemen of Baongo by Daniele Tamagni, Paul Smith and Paul Goodwin, Publisher: Trolley. **Website:** amazon.com
- 3) The Afropolitan: A magazine and website from South Africa packed with content from an afropolitan perspective. **Website:** afropolitan.co.za/
- 4) Association of African Designers in Diaspora: The Association of African Designers in the Diaspora is the non-profit social enterprise arm of Africa Fashion Week London that supports emerging designers with the aim to make a positive contribution to society through fashion and creativity. **Website:** <http://africafashionweeklondon.com/africafashionweek/association-of-african-designers-in-diaspora/>
- 5) The Creative Economy: How People Make Money From Ideas by John Howkins, Publisher: Penguin. **Website:** creativeeconomy.com/book.htm
- 6) Creative Economy Report Website: This annual report offers a snapshot of the state of the global creative economy and its key trends. **Website:** <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/Publications/Creative-Economy-Report-%28Series%29.aspx>
- 7) Copyright + Creativity = Jobs and Economic Growth: WIPO Studies on the Economic Contribution of the Copyright Industries (WIPO 2012). **Website:** <http://www.ip-watch.org/weblog/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/WIPO-Copyright-Economic-Contribution-Analysis-2012-FINAL-230-2.pdf>
- 8) The Afropolitan Shop: The Afropolitan Shop is an online boutique founded by Beverly Lwenya, that desires to tell an African Design Story. It began as a blog in 2007 called The Afropolitan Network, which highlighted stories and images of the African Diaspora. The Afropolitan Shop is now a growing global brand, specializing in handmade and designer accessories such as jewelry, bags and shoes. **Website:** theafropolitanshop.com/

2) Cuban Entrepreneurs Embracing Changes to Economy

The Caribbean island of Cuba has gone its own way economically and socially since its revolution in 1959. The country has seen significant gains in its human development in the decades since, and can boast impressive education levels and good public health care.

Cuba enjoys a good ranking on the Human Development Index (HDI) - 59 out of 187 countries - and it has been rising since 1980. For Latin America and the Caribbean, Cuba is above the regional average (<http://hdrstats.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/CUB.html>).

But the country has also had a turbulent economy with periods of severe economic contraction. This has increased poverty levels and hunger, in particular during the Special Period beginning in 1990 (<http://www.historyofcuba.com/history/havana/lperez2.htm>) when the significant subsidies enjoyed by the country from the Soviet Union were pulled and the country saw a steep drop in its ability to import fuel and other goods. Cuba is still trying to repair the economic damage.

In the book *Cuba: Between Reform and Revolution*, Louis A. Perez, Jr. explains: "The old socialist bloc Council of Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) had accounted for almost 85 percent of Cuban trade, transactions conducted almost entirely in nonconvertible currency. Commercial relations with the former Soviet Union declined by more than 90 percent, from \$8.7 billion in 1989 to \$4.5 billion in 1991 and \$750 million in 1993. Trade with eastern European countries ended almost completely.

"Soviet oil imports decreased by almost 90 percent, from 13 million tons in 1989 to 1.8 million tons in 1992. Shipments of capital grade consumer goods, grains, and foodstuff declined and imports of raw materials and spare parts essential for Cuban industry ceased altogether."

Conducting private business in Cuba was discouraged after the revolution as the state became the dominant arbiter of all economic transactions. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, Cuba has experimented at various times with moving to a mixed economy, only to pull back and return to the old ways. But now things are changing significantly after economic reforms that have accelerated since Cuban President Raul Castro took over from his brother Fidel in 2008. The reforms began in 2008 with the liberalizing of access to mobile phones, and accelerated between 2010 and 2013, when the number of people working in small businesses tripled.

Cuentapropistas - the Cuban term for entrepreneurs, named after "cuenta propia," the ability to do business for oneself - have flocked to be officially registered as small businesses, with the number shooting up from 143,000 in 2010, to 429,000 by June 2013 (Report on Business).

Gustavo Kouri told the Report on Business magazine, "Although I enjoyed the work I was doing before - at an information centre in specialized health sciences - it wasn't possible to earn enough to support my family. "And then the state opened more opportunities to develop private businesses, for cuenta propia." He now owns the Rio Mar restaurant (<https://www.facebook.com/restauranteriomar>).

Artists and athletes have also been attracted to the opportunities that have opened up. One is former volleyball Olympic gold medalist Mireya Luis (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mireya_Luis), who now owns Las Tres Medallas (<http://www.alamesacuba.com/en/la-habana/restaurant/las-tres-medallas/>), a pizza-and-pasta restaurant.

For Luis, becoming an entrepreneur means the chance to "realize a dream."

"Being able to open a place - a restaurant, a bar, a cafeteria, whatever - is a good opportunity for self-development, for people to demonstrate a capacity for business, and for them to grow personally," she said. "It's something incredible."

Gilberto Valladares owns a hair salon in Old Havana, Arte Corte Studio, and has been able to employ others. "Initially, it was a dream of dignifying and recovering a certain degree of respect for the trade of hairdresser and barber," he told the Report on Business. "As my business grew, so did the dream." He now employs a half dozen people from the neighborhood.

Cuba is attempting to reform and modernize its economy while holding on to the things people hold dear and see as the good achievements of the revolution: free healthcare, education and other public services.

Gregory Biniowsky is a Canadian-trained lawyer and political scientist who has spent more than 15 years living and working in Cuba and works for Havanada Consulting, a firm that focuses on sustainable development projects and social enterprise initiatives. "The irony is those that will save the Revolution are the emerging small- and medium-sized private businesses," he said. "And those that could destroy it are those elements in the bureaucracy that resist those changes."

The entrepreneurial spirit gripping the island is infectious. At one time, much of the only reading material available in bookshops were works with a communist or socialist theme.

But Cubans now have an alternative: an English-language bookshop called Cuba Libro (<https://www.facebook.com/cubalibroHAV>). It is filling an urgent gap in the marketplace for English-language books and foreign works in general.

Set up by an American writer and journalist Conner Gorry (connergorry.com), who has been living in Havana, Cuba since 2002, the bookshop has become a hub for free thinking and new ideas.

"I know how hard it is to get English-language sources here," she told The Associated Press. "So I started cooking this idea."

Libro is the Spanish word for book and the play on words is meant to evoke a Cuba Libre, a rum-and-cola drink named for the country's liberation from colonial Spain. The store bills itself as a "cafe, bookstore, oasis," and its logo features a woman reclining with a cup of coffee and a good book for reading.

The idea came about when a friend of Gorry could not find a place to unload 35 books she had. In time, Gorry amassed a collection of 300 English-language books, and this embryonic library became the book shop. The store also carries magazines, including U.S. titles The New Yorker and Rolling Stone.

So far, the store faces little competition. Government book shops feature the occasional Cuban novel translated into English or the English-language versions of state-run newspapers such as Granma (<http://www.granma.cu/ingles/>).

Cubans are enjoying the slow thaw and what it could bring. "It is increasing in Cuba, the possibility to have different alternatives," said Carlos Menendez, a 77-year-old retired economist Menendez. Cuba Libro has two licenses to operate - one for selling food and one for selling used books - and is run as a type of cooperative, a group-owned private enterprise with five Cubans.

Doing business in Cuba is not without challenges. The bookshop needs to steer a steady path and avoid selling anything that would be considered "counterrevolutionary." Gorry also needs to avoid problems with the U.S. government, which bans Americans from any financial transactions with the Cuban government.

"I've had to tread extremely carefully, everything above-board and legal, because I'm an American, I'm a North American, I am beholden to U.S. laws," she said. "And so I'm not in agreement with those laws, but I abide by them."

The bookshop has the benefit of a well-educated pool of potential customers; the annual Havana book festival is a popular draw in the country (<http://feriadellibro.cubaliteraria.cu/>).

There is a strong thirst for self-improvement in Cuba, and to gain knowledge is to get a better paying job. To widen access to the shop, there will be a lending library for those who can't afford to buy the books on offer, and there will also be English classes.

And how will the bookshop get restocked in a country that still exercises a lot of control over information? "Getting donations is going to be another interesting piece of it, because importing books here is very difficult," Gorry said.

LINKS:

- 1) Cuba Research Center: The Cuba Research Center is a nonprofit organization based in Alexandria, Virginia. Founded in 2013, its purpose is to provide information about Cuba and U.S.-Cuba relations, to participate in public debate about those subjects, and to build bridges between Americans and Cubans interested in those topics. **Website:** <http://www.us-crc.org/>
- 2) Havanada Consulting: Havanada Consulting is a consulting firm which focuses on sustainable development projects and social enterprise initiatives in Cuba. **Website:** havanada.com
- 3) Havana Cuba Business: If you are engaged in or would like to learn more about Cuba-related business or travel activities, Havana Cuba Business offer a customized consulting service that will address your questions and concerns. **Website:** cuentapropistas.com
- 4) A business-friendly Cuba gets a hand from Canada (Report on Business). **Website:** <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/rob-magazine/a-business-friendly-cuba-gets-a-hand-from-canada/article14006239/?page=all>

3) Radical Drone Solution to Woeful Infrastructure in Poor Countries

The rise of Drones - unpiloted aircraft, formally called Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) or Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) - have long been used for military purposes. The U.S. military claims to have 7,500 drones - a massive growth from just 50 a decade ago - and has used them for surveillance and combat in conflicts from Afghanistan to Iraq.

Drones can cost anywhere between a few thousand and millions of dollars depending on their size and sophistication. Some weigh as little as half a kilogram, and the largest can reach 18,000 kilograms (19 tons).

It is estimated 40 countries around the world are working on drones in one capacity or another.

Military drones come with ominous-sounding names such as Predator, Fire Scout, Global Hawk and Hunter. But many pioneers and innovators are setting out to prove drones can be a technology of peace and development and not just of fear and war.

YouTube provides many examples of drones being tested out as a delivery method. SF Express (http://www.sf-express.com/cn/en/product_service/product_intro/airline_delivery.html), a courier service in Dongguang, China has tried delivering parcels by drone. It is using a drone with eight rotor blades, called an octocopter (<http://www.steadidrone.eu/octocopter-ei8ht/>).

In Shanghai, the InCake bakery has used drones to deliver cakes (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXwGwSkujOY>). The service was brought to a halt after complaints from citizens, worried the drone would crash into someone.

The American pizza chain Domino's has been testing drones for delivering pizza in the United Kingdom (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDXuGQRpvs4>). A British company has used drones to deliver sushi to restaurant tables in London (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WV0yQYXLU34>).

These may prove to be novelty experiments - or the early days of a revolution. Time will tell.

But serious thinking about drones is taking place in the area of development.

One pioneering company thinks it has a solution for two big problems common to many developing countries: the chaos, congestion and crowding that clog urban areas; and the poor or non-existent infrastructure in rural areas. Both problems make it expensive and time-consuming to move goods around.

A billion people in the world do not have access to all-weather roads, says the World Bank. Some roads are being upgraded in parts of sub-Saharan Africa but many are in worse shape than they were decades ago. Modern infrastructure is expensive to build, and the funds to do it often must be borrowed.

A startup called Matternet thinks it has the solution to getting around this problem in Africa, and in rapidly growing cities of the global South. It believes drones can come to the rescue where infrastructure is poor or non-existent, and save valuable wealth that can be diverted to real improvements in human development, or used to reduce congestion in crowded urban areas.

The Matternet (<http://matternet.us/>) is billed as "the next paradigm for transportation." Matternet is offering a system and a concept for deploying drones as a scalable solution to overcome the problem of poor transportation networks in developing countries.

The artist's vision on Matternet's website shows drones buzzing their way through an urban high-rise landscape as they go about their business.

The Matternet drone design has two wings with three fans in each wing to allow it to take off and land vertically as well as flying in a straight line. There is a 10 litre space for packages and a rechargeable battery at the bottom of the drone. The drones can fly at 40 kilometres an hour, at an altitude of up to 121 metres and are guided by GPS (Global Positioning System) (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_Positioning_System).

The drone moves in and out of a ground-station landing pod, where it is recharged, picks up new packages to deliver, and connects electronically to receive instructions. An entry and exit slot sits on top of the pod while there is a place at ground level for people to pop in packages for delivery.

Each vehicle costs US \$1,000 and can last 10 years, the makers claim. Matternet believes the drones could transport 2 kilograms over 10 kilometres for just 24 US cents a trip.

Matternet's Andreas Raptopoulos (<https://www.solveforx.com/moonshots/physical-transport>) hopes to push Africa away from simply upgrading its infrastructure along the lines of what is already in existence in developed countries. It is estimated it will take Africa another 50 years to have an infrastructure equal to North America. But why wait so long? Why not, he argues, just use drones or UAVs to knit a transport infrastructure criss-crossing the continent delivering goods and services to people?

Radical drone advocates like Matternet are very ambitious. They believe drones are to infrastructure what mobile phones have been to telecommunications: an advanced, 21st-century technology that enables countries to leapfrog ahead of old-school 20th century infrastructure and connect people up for much less cost and effort.

Imagine a city in the global South 15 years from now: canyons of high-rise buildings stretch from the central business district out to the suburbs where apartment towers replace office buildings. And whooshing through these canyons will be the drones carrying everything from takeaway food to medical supplies to the latest fashion items.

Anywhere in Africa can currently contact Matternet to arrange a trial of the technology (<http://matternet.us/get-matternet/>). The concept had field trials in the Dominican Republic and Haiti in the Caribbean. A large field test trial is being arranged for Lesotho, where the drones will help with delivering supplies to clinics serving patients with HIV/AIDS. The 47 clinics are spread out over a 138 square kilometre area and will be served by 50 ground stations and 150 drones at a cost of US \$900,000. In comparison, building 2 kilometres of a single lane road would cost US \$1 million.

Matternet is based in Palo Alto, California and founded by partners Andreas Raptopoulos, Paola Santana, Dimitar Pachlov and Darlene Damm.

It was conceived at the Singularity University (<http://singularityu.org/>) whose mission is to educate, inspire and empower leaders to apply exponential technologies to address humanity's grand challenges.

LINKS:

- 1) DIY Drones: The Leading Community for Personal UAVs: This is the home for everything about amateur Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). **Website:** <http://diydrones.com/>
- 2) 3DRobotics Inc: 3D Robotics is the leading open source unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) technology company. It was founded in 2009 by Chris Anderson (founder of DIY Drones) and Jordi Munoz, and today is a professional, venture-backed enterprise with more than 70 employees across three offices in San Diego (engineering), Berkeley (business and sales) and Tijuana (manufacturing). **Website:** <http://store.3drobotics.com/>
- 3) Canadian Centre for Unmanned Vehicle Systems in Medicine Hat: CCUVS is a Canadian national change agent, a non-profit corporation whose purpose is to facilitate sustained, profitable growth of the Canadian unmanned systems sector. **Website:** <http://www.ccuvs.com/>
- 4) Dude!!! I Want That: A gadgets website featuring novel inventions. **Website:** <http://www.dudeiwantthat.com/?keywords=survival>
- 5) Phys.org is a leading web-based science, research and technology news service which covers a full range of topics. These include physics, earth science, medicine, nanotechnology, electronics, space, biology, chemistry, computer sciences, engineering, mathematics and other sciences and technologies. **Website:** <http://phys.org/>
- 6) MIT Humans and Automation Lab: Research in the Humans and Automation Lab (HAL) focuses on the multifaceted interactions of human and computer decision-making in complex sociotechnical systems. With the explosion of automated technology, the need for humans as supervisors of complex automatic control systems has replaced the need for humans in direct manual control. **Website:** <http://web.mit.edu/aeroastro/labs/halab/news.shtml>
- 7) Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI): The Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International is the world's largest non-profit organization devoted exclusively to advancing the unmanned systems and robotics community. **Website:** <http://www.auvsi.org/Home/>

4) Pioneering African Airlines Help to Expand Routes

The last decade has seen a revolution in African air travel. The number of air routes has grown and this has paralleled the economic growth across the continent. As demand has been strong for Africa's resources, it has also fueled a consumer boom that is benefiting an increasing number of people.

More and more people can afford to fly and flights are taking Africans to cities across Africa and out of Africa to visit cities around the world. These flights also bring in a growing number of tourists and business people.

As growth continues despite the many obstacles and challenges, and as urbanization rolls onwards, new routes have sprung up linking the continent's cities to each other and to the world. National and local airlines have evolved to meet growing demand for flights, with the big global airlines moving in to compete.

Africa's airlines, tourism and airport authorities gathered in early 2013 to discuss how better to link the continent up by air, and the fruits of this collaboration are coming to light.

A recent new entrant is Fastjet (<http://www.fastjet.com/us/>). Bringing the highly competitive budget airline model to Africa that has proven so successful in Europe, it is owned by Britain's Easyjet and has its hub in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. It will offer low-cost flights to South Africa, Zambia, and Rwanda in autumn 2013 and, ambitiously, hopes to become "Africa's first pan-continental low-cost airline" (BBC). It has 10 aircraft.

If people book early, they can snag a one-way flight between Johannesburg and Dar es Salaam for just US \$100.

Fastjet is also creating a low-cost airline in Nigeria in partnership with Nigeria's Red 1 Airways (red1air.com).

One airline also expanding its routes is Daallo Airlines (daallo.com) from the small nation of Djibouti (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Djibouti>) in the northeast Horn of Africa.

Its website shows straight away how the airline is able to help link up cities normally left out of global air routes.

Flights can be booked for journeys between Djibouti and Somalia, a country only now beginning to recover from decades of civil war and anarchy. Daallo also flies to Nairobi, Kenya, the East African hub for international agencies and corporations, to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, to Jeddah in Saudi Arabia and Hargeisa, capital of the autonomous region of Somaliland (<http://somalilandgov.com/>).

It also offers weekly cargo flights to these destinations. Daallo has a Boeing 777 and an Antonov AN-12. Djibouti is tiny but well positioned as a transport and shipping hub. It has invested heavily recently in its port facilities and benefits from good security, with a large U.S. base located in the country, Camp Lemonnier (http://www.cnmc.navy.mil/regions/cnreurafswa/installations/camp_lemonnier_djibouti.html), home to Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa.

Further improving flight access in Africa, in August 2013, South Africa saw a new low-cost airline enter the marketplace. Safair (safair.co.za) is operating 10 daily flights between Johannesburg and Cape Town using Boeing 737-400s.

Ethiopian Airlines (<http://www.flyethiopian.com/en/default.aspx>) has also started a strategic partnership with Malawi Airlines as part of its Ethiopian Vision 2025. This will make the capital of Malawi, Lilongwe, Ethiopian Airlines' third hub on the African continent. It has its main hub in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and its West African hub in the Togo capital Lomé.

LINKS:

- 1) Routes Online: The Routes business is focused entirely on aviation route development and the company's portfolio includes events, media and online businesses. The company organizes and operates world-renowned airline and airport networking events through its regional and World Route Development Forums. They are held in key markets throughout the year in Asia, Africa, Europe, the Americas and the CIS. **Website:** <http://www.routesonline.com/>
- 2) IATA: The International Air Transport Association (IATA) is the trade association for the world's airlines, representing some 240 airlines or 84 per cent of total air traffic. IATA support many areas of aviation activity and help formulate industry policy on critical aviation issues. **Website:** <http://www.iata.org/Pages/default.aspx>
- 3) Airlines International magazine: Airlines International is IATA's flagship magazine, available in print, on tablets and online. **Website:** <http://www.iata.org/publications/airlines-international/Pages/index.aspx>
- 4) African Airlines Association: "To be the leader and catalyst for the growth of a globally competitive and integrated African airline industry". **Website:** afraa.org

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Check out our website archive: southerninnovator.org

Southern Innovator (ISSN 2222-9280) magazine's third issue is now online and print copies are available for distribution. The third issue's theme is agribusiness and food security. View the issue online here: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055665/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-3-Agribusiness-and-Food-Security>. Contact us about opportunities to sponsor this issue or any future issues and we can send you more information on how it works.

Issue 4, on cities and urbanization, is complete and will be published soon. Please contact the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation if you would like a copy (copies) of Southern Innovator (<http://ssc.undp.org/content/ssc.html>).

The covers for issues 2, 3 and 4 are below:



Issue 2 on Youth and Entrepreneurship; Issue 3 on Agribusiness and Food Security, Issue 4 on Cities and Urbanization are available. Issue 5 is also in the works for late 2013 release.

Follow us on Twitter @SouthSouth1

Issue 1 of Southern Innovator was called "...a terrific tour de force of what is interesting, cutting edge and relevant in the global mobile/ICT space..."

Also check out our South South Expo: 2012's Expo was held in Vienna, Austria: southsouthexpo.org

BOOKS

NEW: Human Development Report 2013: The Rise of the South. The 2013 Human Development Report examines the profound shift in global dynamics driven by the fast-rising new powers of the developing world and its long-term implications for human development. **Website:** <http://hdr.undp.org/en/mediacentre/humandevreportpresskits/2013report/>

Human Development Reports, (1990-2013). **Website:** <http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2011/>

The New Harvest: Agricultural Innovation in Africa by Calestous Juma, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:** http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20504/new_harvest.html

NEW: The Entrepreneurial State: Debunking Public vs. Private Myths by Mariana Mazzucato, Publisher: Anthem Press. The Entrepreneurial State explores the leading role that the State has played in generating innovation and economic growth in modern capitalism. **Website:** <http://marianamazzucato.com/projects/entrepreneurial-state/>

NEW: Edible Insects: Future prospects for food and feed security, Publisher: FAO. **Website:** <http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3253e/i3253e00.htm>

Innovative Africa: The New Face of Africa: Essays on the Rise of Africa's Innovation Age by Will Mutua and Mbwana Ally, Publisher: Afrinnovator. **Website:** <http://book.afrinnovator.com/>

The Coming Prosperity by Philip Auerwald, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:** <http://auerswald.org/>

Big Data: A Revolution That Will Transform How We Live, Work and Think by Viktor Mayer-Schonberger and Kenneth Cukier, Publisher: John Murray. **Website:** amazon.com

The New Digital Age: Reshaping the Future of People, Nations and Business by Eric Schmidt and Jared Cohen, Publisher: John Murray. **Website:** amazon.com

Interconnected Economies: Benefiting from Global Value Chains, Publisher: OECD. **Website:** <http://www.oecd.org/sti/ind/global-value-chains.htm>

Need, Speed and Greed: How the New Rules of Innovation Can Transform Businesses, Propel Nations to Greatness, and Tame the World's Most Wicked Problems by Vijay Vaitheeswaran, Publisher: HarperBusiness. **Website:** amazon.com

Living in the Endless City edited by Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic, Publisher: Phaidon. The city is the subject of the 21st century. All over the world, populations are shifting towards urban centres. Living in the Endless City depicts an authoritative survey of cities of today and the prospects for our urban future of tomorrow. 36 contributors from across Europe, South America, China, Africa and the U.S. set the agenda for the city - detailing its successes as well as its failures. **Website:** <http://www.urban-age.net/publications/living-in-the-endless-city/>

Consumptionomics: Asia's Role in Reshaping Capitalism by Chandran Nair, Publisher: Infinite Ideas. **Website:** amazon.com

World 3.0: Global Prosperity and How to Achieve It by Pankaj Ghemawa, Publisher: Harvard Business School Press. **Website:** amazon.com

Global Slump: The Economics and Politics of Crisis and Resistance by David McNally, Publisher: PM Press. Global Slump analyzes the global financial meltdown as the first systemic crisis of the neoliberal stage of capitalism. It argues that – far from having ended – the crisis has ushered in a whole period of worldwide economic and political turbulence. In developing an account of the crisis as rooted in fundamental features of capitalism, Global Slump challenges the view that its source lies in financial deregulation. **Website:** https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product_detail&p=271

Breakout Nations by Ruchir Sharma, Publisher: Penguin. Breakout Nations offers journeys through more than two dozen of the most interesting economies in the emerging world. **Website:** <http://breakoutnations.com/>

Light Manufacturing in Africa by Hinh T. Dinh et al, Publisher: World Bank. This book examines how light manufacturing can offer a viable solution for sub-Saharan Africa's need for structural transformation and productive job creation, given its potential competitiveness based on low wage costs and an abundance of natural resources that supply raw materials needed for industries. **Website:** <http://issuu.com/world.bank.publications/docs/9780821389614>

Arrival City by Doug Saunders, Publisher: Pantheon. A third of humanity is on the move. History's largest migration is creating new urban spaces that are this century's focal points of conflict and change — centres of febrile settlement that will reshape our cities and reconfigure our economies. **Website:** <http://arrivalcity.net/>

China: And the End of Poverty in Africa – Towards Mutual Benefit? by Penny Davis, Publisher: Diakonia and the European Network on Debt and Development. **Website:** www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/Reports/Kinarapport_A4.pdf

State of the Field in Youth Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods Development Publisher: Making Cents International. This practical resource features learning from over 80 leading organizations that are working around the world to increase and improve economic opportunities for young people. Topics include youth enterprise development; workforce development; youth-inclusive financial services; working with adolescent girls and young women; and monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment. **Website:** www.YouthEconomicOpportunities.org/media.asp

Vitamin Green: The Definitive Guide to the World of Contemporary Sustainable Design: Features 100 Innovative Projects from Around the World by editors of Phaidon Press, Publisher: Phaidon Press. **Website:** <http://uk.phaidon.com/store/architecture/vitamin-green-9780714862293/>

Makers: The New Industrial Revolution by Chris Anderson, Publisher: Crown Business. **Website:** amazon.com

World Economic Outlook, October 2012: Coping with High Debt and Sluggish Growth, Publisher: IMF. **Website:** eurospangroup.com

Information Economy Report 2012: The Software Industry and Developing Countries, Publisher: United Nations Publications. **Website:** eurospangroup.com

China and India: Towards Global Economic Supremacy? by Rita Dulci and Jose Miguel Andreu, Publisher: Academic Foundation. **Website:** eurospanbookstore.com

Devaluing to Prosperity: Misaligned Currencies and Their Growth Consequences by Surjit S. Bhalla, Publisher: Peterson Institute for International Economics. **Website:** eurospanbookstore.com

Chinnovation: How Chinese Innovators are Changing the World by Yinglan Tan, Publisher: John Wiley & Sons. **Website:** amazon.com

Hello World: Where Design Meets Life by Alice Rawsthorn, Publisher: Hamish Hamilton. **Website:** amazon.com

Urgent Architecture: 40 Sustainable Housing Solutions for a Changing World by Bridgette Meinhold, Publisher: W.W. Norton & Co. **Website:** amazon.com

When the Money Runs Out: The End of Western Affluence by Stephen D. King, Publisher: Yale Books. **Website:** amazon.com

Papers and Reports

Clean Air Asia Study 2012: **Website:** <http://cleanairinitiative.org/portal/node/11338>

African Economic Outlook 2013: **Website:** <http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/>

State of China's Cities: 2010/2011: Better City, Better Life: Publisher: UNHABITAT. **Website:** www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011

Innovative responses to fragility: The promise of modern technology: **Website:** <http://oecdinsights.org/2013/04/22/innovative-responses-to-fragility-the-promise-of-modern-technology/>

OECD Reviews of Agricultural Policies: Kazakhstan 2013: Publisher: OECD. Kazakhstan can boost farm sector with investment in infrastructure and innovation. **Website:** <http://www.oecd.org/tad/agricultural-policies/kazakhstan-review-2013.htm>

NEW: The IDS Bulletin 'China and Brazil in African Agriculture' is published in July 2013 by Wiley-Blackwell. Pre-review versions of the Bulletin articles are available free to download from www.future-agricultures.org/research/cbaa

OECD Reviews of Innovation Policy: Innovation in Southeast Asia: Publisher: OECD. This review provides a quantitative and qualitative assessment of Southeast Asian countries' capacity in S&T and innovation. **Website:** http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/science-and-technology/innovation-in-southeast-asia-2012_9789264128712-en

Knowledge-based Start-ups in Mexico: Publisher: OECD. This report evaluates the performance of the knowledge-based sector in Mexico and recommends ways to improve the financing, creation and expansion of innovative knowledge-based start-ups. **Website:** http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/industry-and-services/knowledge-based-start-ups-in-mexico_9789264193796-en

Exploring Data-Driven Innovation as a New Source of Growth: Publisher: OECD. Data continues to be a valuable asset for stimulating innovation and productivity. This report explores the potential of data and data analytics to contribute to economic growth and well-being in sectors such as online advertisement, health care, utilities, logistics and transport and public administration. It identifies areas where coherent public policies and practices for data collection, transport, storage, provision and use are needed to unlock the potential of big data. **Website:** http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/science-and-technology/exploring-data-driven-innovation-as-a-new-source-of-growth_5k47zw3fcp43-en

BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2013: "The emerging economies - the non-OECD countries - firmly established themselves as the source of what demand growth was seen, with China and India alone accounting for nearly 90% of the increase. Just twenty years ago, the emerging economies accounted for only 42% of global consumption; now that figure is 56%." **Website:** <http://www.bp.com/en/global/corporate/about-bp/statistical-review-of-world-energy-2013.html>

What is Social and Solidarity Economy and Why Does it Matter? by Peter Utting, Publisher: UNRISD. Governments and international organizations need to be paying far more attention to SSE, and question how its developmental and emancipatory potential can be realized. They should also be asking themselves whether current priorities or biases in development policies are not missing, or indeed undermining, what could be a major new game in town. **Website:** http://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/newsview.nsf/%28httpNews%29/B880F260D1BE1FB5C1257B5E002F6F65?OpenDocument&utm_campaign=ebulletin_23_5_2013&utm_medium=email_html&utm_source=en&utm_content=content_link

Trees and food security in Africa; what's the link? **Website:** <http://blog.worldagroforestry.org/index.php/2013/07/04/trees-and-food-security-in-africa-whats-the-link/>

Magazines

Southern Innovator Issue 1: Mobile Phones and Information Technology Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/95410448/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-1-Mobile-Phones-and-Information-Technology>

Southern Innovator Issue 2: Youth and Entrepreneurship Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055335/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-2-Youth-and-Entrepreneurship>

Southern Innovator Issue 3: Agribusiness and Food Security Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055665/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-3-Agribusiness-and-Food-Security>

Southern Innovator Issue 4: Cities and Urbanization Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/133622315/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-4-Cities-and-Urbanization>

New Publication

Net Journal of Agricultural Science (NJAS) is an international peer-reviewed open access journal, which publishes innovative work from all areas related to Agricultural Science. NJAS covers all areas of agriculture including arid soil research and rehabilitation, agricultural genomics, stored products research, tree fruit production, pesticide science, post-harvest biology and technology, seed science research, irrigation, agricultural

engineering, water resources management, agronomy, animal science, physiology and morphology, aquaculture, crop science, dairy science, entomology, fish and fisheries, forestry, freshwater science, horticulture, poultry science, soil science, systematic biology, veterinary, virology, viticulture, weed biology, agricultural economics and agribusiness. Website: netjournals.org

On the Web

Blogs and Websites

LandWise: The Landesa Center for Women's Land Rights has just launched LandWise, a free online resource containing land-related laws, information about relevant customary practices, and explanatory materials. LandWise is an important new tool for policymakers, researchers, legal practitioners, and women's advocates working to strengthen women's land rights around the world. **Website:**

http://landwise.landesa.org/?utm_source=ADV+Plotlines+-+JULY+2013&utm_campaign=Plotlines+JULY+2013&utm_medium=email

Raspberry Pi: The Raspberry Pi is a credit-card sized computer that plugs into your TV and a keyboard. It's a capable little PC which can be used for many of the things that your desktop PC does, like spreadsheets, word-processing and games. It also plays high-definition video. Raspberry Pi want to see it being used by kids all over the world to learn programming. **Website:** raspberrypi.org

African Robotics Network: The African Robotics Network (AFRON) is a community of institutions, organizations and individuals engaged in robotics in Africa. AFRON seeks to promote communication and collaborations that will enhance robotics-related education, research and industry on the continent. To achieve this, AFRON organizes projects, meetings and events in Africa at robotics and automation conferences abroad. **Website:**

<http://robotics-africa.org/>

Polis: A collaborative blog about cities around the globe. **Website:** <http://www.thepolisblog.org/2012/03/coca-cola-in-africa.html>

mDirectory: The mDirectory is the most comprehensive database of information on mobile tech for social change on the Web: case studies, mobile tools, research, and how-to guides. **Website:** <http://mobileactive.org/directory>

Global Development: Launched in September 2010, this website from the Guardian newspaper tracks progress on the MDGs, encourages debate on its blogs, offers a rich store of datasets from around the world, and features monthly podcasts and resources for schools. **Website:** www.guardian.co.uk/global-development

Latameconomy: Latameconomy.org is the latest evolution of the annual Latin American Economic Outlook report, essentially bringing its trusted, high quality content into the digital age. Its wide country coverage and methods of analysis are essential for anyone seeking to understand the economic, social and political developments of Latin American countries. **Website:** www.latameconomy.org/en/

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs): International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs) is a pluralist network of progressive economists across the world, engaged in research, teaching and dissemination of critical analyses of economic policy and development. **Website:** www.networkideas.org/

OECD: Tackling the economic crisis website

The global economic crisis is entering a new phase amid signs of a return to positive growth in many countries. But unemployment is likely to remain high and much still needs to be done to underpin a durable recovery. This website will track the recovery. **Website:**

http://www.oecd.org/document/24/0,3343,en_2649_201185_41707672_1_1_1_1,00.html

The Global Urbanist: News and analysis of cities around the world: planning, governance, economy, communities, environment, international. Website: globalurbanist.com

ICT Update: A bimonthly printed bulletin, a web magazine, and an accompanying email newsletter that explores innovative uses of information technology in agriculture and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. **Website:** <http://ictupdate.cta.int/en/Regulars/Perspectives/%28issue%29/56>

Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program website: The first space for financial services providers (FSPs) and youth-service organizations (YSOs) to gather, learn and share about youth-inclusive financial services. **Website:** yfslink.org

Triple Crisis Blog: Global Perspectives on Finance, Development and Environment. **Website:** <http://triplecrisis.com/>

IDEAS Centre is dedicated to facilitating the integration of developing countries into the world economy and has over the last ten years assembled substantial experience on this issue. Its mission is to support policy-makers around the world working to develop approaches to ensure that globalization can be harnessed for development

and to fight poverty both within their countries and in a more inclusive and fairer world trading system. **Website:** <http://www.ideascentre.ch/>

Full Disclosure: The Aid Transparency Blog: A Devex blog, written by members of the international community. **Website:** www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure

Africa Portal: An online knowledge resource offering researchers and opinion leaders a forum to share their insights on Africa and publish their work on pressing areas of concern to policymakers and the public. It aims to fill the gap in accessibility to research and information on policy issues on the continent. Website: africaportal.org
African Economic Outlook: A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels. **Website:** africaneconomicoutlook.org/en

Africa Renewal: The Africa Renewal information programme, produced by the Africa Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, provides up-to-date information and analysis of the major economic and development challenges facing Africa today. **Website:** www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/

Timbuktu Chronicles: A blog by Emeka Okafor
With "a view of Africa and Africans with a focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology, practical remedies and other self-sustaining activities." **Website:** <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.com/>

AfriGadget: AfriGadget is a must-read for African invention junkies. They are always on the look out for ingenious innovation that is new or a repurposing of existing technology in a new way, interesting in the sense that the story captures the imagination of others, inspiring others to see solutions in uncommon ways, practical ideas that solve problems in a demonstrable way, and entrepreneurs who are inventing new products or solutions. **Website:** afrigadget.com

Medium for Haiti: This is a collection dedicated to sharing stories about rebuilding Haiti. Website: <https://medium.com/medium-for-haiti>

Interesting Blogger

Emeka Okafor, Timbuktu Chronicles: Emeka Okafor is an entrepreneur and venture catalyst who lives in New York City. He is the curator of Maker Faire Africa. He was the director for TED Global 2007 that took place in Arusha, Tanzania. In addition he is a member of the TED fellowship team. His interests include sustainable technologies in the developing world and paradigm-breaking technologies in general. His blog, Timbuktu Chronicles, seeks to spur dialogue in areas of entrepreneurship, technology and the scientific method as it impacts Africa. **Website:** <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.co.uk/>

Notable Websites

African Brains: The Home of Intelligent Networking: African Brains - for forward thinking, intelligent Africans to network and propose new ideas and technologies to the world. **Website:** www.africanbrains.net

Arab Brains: The Home of Intelligent Networking: Arab Brains has been established to connect innovative Arabs across the Arab World and beyond. **Website:** <http://arabbrains.com/>

Social Media

Africa Entrepreneurship Platform: This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally, driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas. **Website:** www.sacca.biz

AfriGadget on Facebook: 'Solving everyday problems with African ingenuity': **Website:** www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579

Start-up Funding

Hubs!

They are sprouting up all over the place and now there is a map showing where they are in Africa. **Website:** <https://africahubs.crowdmap.com/#>

And there are 18 in Latin America too. **Website:** <http://thenextweb.com/la/2012/08/11/18-latin-american-tech-hubs-know/>

The SEED Initiative

Hosted by the UN Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the SEED Initiative is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy. The annual SEED Awards help to develop the most promising social and environmental start-ups in emerging economies and developing countries. **Website:** <http://unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=2647&ArticleID=8798&l=en>

The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda.

Five pioneers will receive US \$50,000 to re-invest in their business. It is open to for-profit businesses that provide high wages to their workers and that operate in sustainable ways. **Website:** <http://pioneersofprosperity.org/index.php>

Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of £2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the 'world's first global youth development competition'. **Website:** www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd

Challenge

InnoCentive (www.innocentive.com/) is a challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable. It is an open marketplace where anybody with a problem can post it, and rewards for effective solutions stretch up to US \$100,000. They use rigorous intellectual property protection so ideas are not stolen without credit being given to the inventor. **Website:** www.rockfound.org/about_us/news/2007/0720first_seeker.shtml

Rwanda Innovation Endowment Fund (RIEF): Rwanda Research Innovation Endowment Fund (RIEF) was established and is managed by the Government of Rwanda, through the Ministry of Education (MINEDUC) in partnership with UNECA (SRO-EA & ISTD) under One UN Rwanda. The objective of this Fund is to stimulate economic transformation through R&D in innovative market-oriented products and processes in priority areas of the economy, thereby increasing prosperity and the competitiveness of the Rwandan economy. The orientation can be either for economic growth, social development or combination of the two. **Website:** <http://www.mineduc.gov.rw/spip.php?article21>

The Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA): The **United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)** and the **African Innovation Foundation (AIF)** are delighted to announce the call for applications for the 2013 **Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA)**. Too often, innovators and entrepreneurs are not highly profiled on the African development agenda. It is IPA's mission to elevate attention around innovative work and help support the vision of entrepreneurs. The prize honours and encourages innovative achievements that contribute towards the development of new products, increased efficiency or cost savings in Africa. The prize also promotes the efforts of young African men and women pursuing science, technology and engineering careers as well as business opportunities that aim to contribute to sustainable development in Africa. **Website:** <http://innovationprizeforafrica.org/>

Video

Forum for the Future: Compelling animated videos exploring the hard choices of an urbanizing world and the need to promote sustainable development and environmental harmony. **Website:** <http://www.youtube.com/user/forumforthefuture96>

EVENTS

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

2013

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October

4th International Conference of Crisis Mappers

Nairobi, Kenya (12 October 2013)

The International Network of Crisis Mappers is the largest and most active international community of experts, practitioners, policymakers, technologists, researchers, journalists, scholars, hackers and skilled volunteers engaged at the intersection between humanitarian crises, technology and crisis mapping.

Website: crisismappers.net

World Business Forum

Mexico City, Mexico (23 to 24 October 2013)

Two days with the most renowned thinkers on management in the world alongside the executive community in Mexico, a space for creating that new project or transforming an old one, a time for new beginnings.

Website: <http://www.wobi.com/event/world-business-forum-mexico-city-2013>

7th ECOWAS Trade Fair

Accra, Ghana (24 October to 4 November 2013)

The regional fair, which is now a biennial event, was instituted to boost intra-community trade which presently hovers between 11 and 15 percent, and thereby contributing to the improved implementation of the ECOWAS Trade Liberalisation Scheme (ETLS). It will also contribute to empowering local producers and stimulating the regional economy. **Website:** <http://www.ecowas.int/>

African Economic Conference 2013 - Call for Papers

Johannesburg, South Africa (28 to 30 October 2013)

The African Economic Conference 2013 is jointly organized by the African Development Bank, the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Development Programme under the theme "Regional Integration in Africa".

Website: <http://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/article/african-economic-conference-2013-call-for-papers-12008/>

The World Islamic Economic Forum

London, UK (29 to 31 October 2013)

At the 9th WIEF, sessions will be adapted to increase delegates' participation as they explore business and investment opportunities, as well as engage in discourse on topical issues and how best to address them. Key areas of focus at the upcoming forum in London include Islamic banking and finance, technology, infrastructure development, health, exports, education and youth.

Website: <http://wief.org/>

Ghana Investment Summit 2013

Accra, Ghana (29 to 30 October 2013)

Africa's recent economic surge is fueling optimism about the continent's prospects and positioning it in the minds of many investors and businesses as a significant opportunity. Blessed with a wealth of natural resources and a large, young and growing population, many economies in Africa are enjoying rates of growth and development that are the envy of the emerging world. **Website:**

<http://cemea.economistconferences.com/event/ghana-investment-summit-2013/ghana-investment-summit-2013-fees-and-registration>

November

ITU Telecom World

Bangkok, Thailand (19 to 22 November 2013)

ITU Telecom World 2013 is the platform for high-level debate, knowledge-sharing and networking for the global ICT community - essential to drive industry success and address critical world socio-economic challenges. It is the one conversation that matters, with the people that matter, with the power to make a real difference in the world.

Website: <http://world2013.itu.int/>

Launch of the Least Developed Countries Report 2013

(20 November 2013)

The UNCTAD Least Developed Countries Report 2013 will focus on the theme of “Growth with employment for inclusive and sustainable development”. The report, noting that 130 million people will enter the labour force in LDCs by 2020, reviews past LDC trends relating to economic growth and employment and recommends policy steps to accelerate job creation. **Website:** <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=300>

UNCTAD: Africa Oil, Gas and Minerals, Trade and Finance Conference and Exhibition
Niamey, Republic of Niger (20 to 23 November 2013)

This annual event is an opportunity to highlight the potential of Niger in particular and of Africa in general, in the energy and mining sectors. The aim is to share experience, knowledge, and create new partnerships and networks.

Website: <http://www.ogtfafrica.com/>

Santiago Mini Maker Faire

Santiago, Chile (23 to 24 November 2013)

Website: <http://makerfaresantiago.com/>

Africa Oil Week

Cape Town, South Africa (25 to 29 November 2013)

The 20th Africa Oil Week 2013 taking place from 25-29th November 2013 at the new venue, the Cape Town International Convention Centre, Cape Town, South Africa, is the world’s longest standing and leading meeting for Africa’s oil and gas industry, and celebrates its Twentieth Anniversary, as over 1,250 delegates from six continents attend the Conference.

Website: <http://www.petro21.com/events/?id=790>

December

Launch of the Information Economy Report 2013

(3 December 2013)

Website: <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=301>

AWARDS AND FUNDING

The EU Contest for Young Scientists

The European Union (EU) Contest for Young Scientists, an initiative of the European Commission, was set up to promote the ideals of co-operation and interchange between young scientists.

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index_en.cfm?pg=history

2013 Innovation Prize for Africa

The second round of the Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA), which aims to reward innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest, has been launched. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) expect the prize to promote among young African men and women in the pursuit of science, technology and engineering careers and business applications. The aims are to:

- Mobilize leaders from all sectors to fuel African innovation;
- Promote innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest through the competition;
- Promote science, technology and engineering as rewarding, exciting and noble career options among the youth in Africa by profiling success applicants; and
- Encourage entrepreneurs, innovators, funding bodies and business development service providers to exchange ideas and explore innovative business opportunities.

Website: InnovationPrizeForAfrica.org

World Summit Youth Award

The international contest for young people using the Internet and mobiles to take action on the UN Millennium Development Goals.

Website: www.youthaward.org

Grand Challenges Canada: Request for Proposals

Grand Challenges Canada is pleased to announce a new initiative in its Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health grand challenge. It’s called Saving Brains. Its goal is to unlock potential in children and dramatically transform lives in the developing world. The money to fund this program comes from the Development Innovation Fund. In Budget 2008, the Government of Canada committed \$225 million CAD over five years to the Development

Innovation Fund, to support the best minds in the world in a collaborative search for solutions to global health challenges. For the Request for Proposals:

Website: [http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request for Proposals-Saving Brains EN.pdf](http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request_for_Proposals-Saving_Brains_EN.pdf)

Zayad Future Energy Prize

The world is in desperate need of innovative solutions to create a new, sustainable energy future. No one knows who or where the next great energy solution will come from. Solutions and technologies that could change the world are being developed globally, and the \$2.2 million Zayed Future Energy Prize, managed by Masdar in Abu Dhabi, recognizes and rewards innovation, leadership, and long-term vision in renewable energy and sustainability.

Website: www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/

Philips Liveable Cities Award

Philips is looking for individuals and community or non-government organizations and businesses with ideas for "simple solutions" that will improve people's health and well-being in a city to enter the Philips Liveable Cities Award. To help translate these ideas into reality, three Award grants totalling €125,000 are on the line. One overall winning idea from any of the three categories outlined below will receive a grant of €75,000, while the two additional ideas will receive grants of €25,000.

Website: <http://www.because.philips.com/livable-cities-award/about-the-award>

Piramal Foundation in India

Has established a US \$25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a \$25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India's rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India's health-care crisis.

Website: www.piramalprize.org

Special Award for South-South Transfer

The aim of the award is to identify, provide visibility, and honour those who have successfully shared their projects and approaches internationally, thereby increasing the impact of the initiative. The winning practice receives US \$15,000 to further transfer the awarded practice to other communities in developing countries.

Website: www.southsouthexpo.org

South-South Experience Exchange Facility

Supported by Mexico, China, India, Denmark, Spain, The Netherlands, and the U.K. and now Colombia, the South-South Experience Exchange Facility is a multi-donor trust fund that promotes the idea that developing countries can learn from the successes of other developing countries in overcoming similar challenges. In the past 12 months, the trust has given out 35 grants to countries for learning activities ranging from working with at risk youth in the Caribbean to outsourcing IT services in Africa.

Website: www.southsouthcases.info

African Writers Fund

Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies.

Website: http://www.trustafrica.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr

Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme

Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan

[Click here for more information](#)

or contact: namstct@vsnl.com, namstct@bol.net.in, apknam@gmail.com

PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana

The University of Ghana (www.ug.edu.gh) has been awarded a project support grant by the Alliance for a Green Revolution (www.agra-alliance.org) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme.

Website: www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10

Genesis: India's Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition

Is a social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible.

Website: <http://genesis.iitm.ac.in/>

Weitzenegger's International Development Job Market

Website: www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php

Global Knowledge Initiative

The Global Knowledge Initiative seeks to build global knowledge partnerships between individuals and institutions of higher education and research. It seeks to help partners access the global knowledge, technology, and human resources needed to sustain growth and achieve prosperity for all."

Website: www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/

ExportHelp - Promoting and supporting access to the European market

The European Commission runs a database for the explicit support of market players in developing countries who want to bring their products to the EU market. The database gives an overview on the EU's preferential trade regimes established for developing countries as well as lists all tariffs, taxes and other requirements for goods imported into the EU.

Website: <http://exporthelp.europa.eu>

Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.

Website: www.devex.org

Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans

Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, Africancareerguidance.com is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organization that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and résumé preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.

Website: www.africancareerguidance.com

African Diaspora Skills Database

This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.

Website: www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database

Aid Workers Network (AWN)

Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.

Website: www.aidworkers.net

Bizzlounge

Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.

Website: <http://bizzlounge.com>

Business Action for Africa

Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business organizations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.

Website: <http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com> .

Business Fights Poverty

Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.

Website: <http://businessfightspoverty.ning.com>

Business in Development Network (BiD)

The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.

Website: www.bidnetwork.org

Zunia

By Development Exchange, it offers news, publications and networking opportunities with the world's development community.

Website: www.zunia.org

Catalogue of Poverty Networks

UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organizations.

Website: www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do

Connections for Development (CfD)

CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organization committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organizations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest – collectively "our world".

Website: www.cfdnetwork.co.uk

Development Crossing

Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

Website: www.developmentcrossing.com

DevelopmentAid.org

The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.

Website: www.developmentaid.org

dgCommunities on the Development Gateway (Zunia.org)

Zunia.org, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.

Website: <http://topics.developmentgateway.org>

Diaspora African Forum

This Forum exists "to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent". We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa's development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.

Website: www.diasporaafrikanforum.org

Business Planet: a new data map on Entrepreneurship

Business Planet, an interactive Google map, now includes data on new business creation around the world.

Measures of entrepreneurial activity are based on the number of total and newly registered corporations. Click on colour markers to learn more about each country.

Website: <http://rru.worldbank.org/businessplanet/default.aspx?pid=8>